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MONTGOMERY HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

date: 5/88

Location: Montgomery Township, New Jersey (Somerset County)

Ranking: 350 State Lead/Fund Lead

Description:

The Montgomery Township Housing Development, comprised of 71 homes is located in the vicinity of Sycamore Lane, Montgomery Township, Somerset County, New Jersey. Well samples collected by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) from private potable wells in the development revealed TCE concentrations up to 500 ppb. In March 1985, the Elizabethtown Water Company extended a water main to which 29 of the homes were connected. Sampling of the wells of the remaining 42 homes showed elevated concentrations of volatile organics in 30 of them. A remedial investigation was completed in Sept. 1988. An operable unit Record of Decision was signed in Sept. 1987 which provides for the extension of a water line and hook-ups to the remaining MTHD residences. A probable source of contamination has been determined based on results of the remedial investigation.

Special Issues:

- ° None to date

Removal Action Status:

- ° Sampling of private wells was initiated in October 1984 to determine if emergency action is needed. Since none exceeded the 10 day SNARL for TCE, no removal action was initiated.
- ° A two-phase field investigation was completed in September 1987.
- ° An operable unit Record of Decision which addressed the provision of an alternate water supply to MTHD residents was signed in September 1987. The action will be performed under the removal program. It will include the hook-up of residences to the existing water line and the extension of an additional main for those residences not serviceable by the existing line.

Remedial Action Status:

- ° Remedial Action Master Plan (RAMP) was initiated on June 10, 1987. A draft was submitted in September 1983. Comments were received by the State in January 1984. A final RAMP was submitted on April 23, 1984.
- ° A joint contract encompassing both the Montgomery Township Housing Development (MTHD) and Rocky Hill Municipal Wellfield RI/FS was awarded to Woodward Clyde Consultants in August 1985. Work Plan documents have been completed, remedial investigation activities have been initiated and are ongoing. The installation of 26 groundwater monitoring wells has been completed.

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Remedial Action Status (cont'd):

- ° An operable unit feasibility study, which evaluated an alternative water supply for affected residences, was completed in July 1987. A public meeting was held on July 29, 1987 to discuss its results.
- ° An operable unit Record of Decision (ROD) was signed in September 1987 that selected an extension at the existing water line to serve the affected potable wells. All residents remaining on private wells will be connected, and private wells will be sealed.

Enforcement Status:

- ° Through information gathered during the Remedial Investigation (RI) and Feasibility Study (FS), one potentially responsible party (PRP) has been identified.
- ° EPA and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) met with the PRP on 3/21/88 to discuss the RI/FS
- ° The NJDEP is in the process of gathering additional information from several parties in order to determine whether they may be PRPs.

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